

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF OPTION III

REF: NATO 6291 DTG 190935Z NOV 75

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DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS

1. WE CAN ACCEPT FRG PROPOSALS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TWO EDITORIAL CHANGES IN SEC III J DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLARITY. FOR THE NEW THIRD SENTENCE WE SUGGEST: "THE REDUCTIONS PROPOSED WOULD INVOLVE ONLY CERTAIN NUCLEAR SYSTEMS AND THEY WOULD BE REDUCED BY SPECIFIED AMOUNTS." FOR THE SECOND FRG PROPOSED ADDITION WE WOULD PREFER "IF CARRIED OUT AS PART OF THE OVERALL NATO PROPOSAL THE REDUCTIONS OFFERED WOULD NOT JEOPARDIZE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO'S NUCLEAR DEFENSE FORCES."

2. WITH REGARD TO DANISH PROPOSAL TO EXPLAIN "THEREBY DIMINISHING NATO SECURITY" IN PARA G, SECTION III, WE WOULD PREFER TO RETAIN EXISTING LANGUAGE OF TEXT (ON GROUNDS THAT WE NEED NOT GO INTO SUCH DETAIL IN A PRESS STATEMENT ON OPTION III); HOWEVER, IF ALLIES WISH TO INCLUDE SOME EXPLANATION, MISSION SHOULD SUGGEST FOLLOWING MODIFICATION: "SUCH A REDUCTION WOULD DIMINISH THE ABSOLUTE NUMBER

OF NATO FORCES MAINTAINING THE DEFENSE LINE IN CENTRAL EUROPE WHILE PRESERVING THE CURRENT DISPARATE RATIO OF FORCES IN THE AREA. GIVEN REDUCED NATO STRENGTH IN THE AREA SUCH A CONTINUED DISPARITY IN GROUND FORCES FAVORING THE WARSAW PACT COMBINED WITH THE PACT'S LARGER ARMOR FORCE AND THE GREATER PROXIMITY OF THEIR FORCES WITHDRAWN WOULD DIMINISH WESTERN SECURITY."

3. WE AGREE WITH MISSION'S COMMENTS (PARA 4, REFTEL) THAT THE BELGIAN AMENDMENTS REPORTED IN PARA 3A AND 3F REFTEL ARE ACCEPTABLE IF OTHERS AGREE, AND THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT FRG VERSION OF LAST SENTENCE OF PARA C, SECTION II.

4. REGARDING BELGIAN PROPOSALS TO ALTER ORDER OF TANK ARMY AND COMMON CEILING OBJECTIVES (PARAS 3B AND 3E REFTEL), WE NOTE THAT BELGIAN AMENDMENT TO PARA A, SECTION II HAS AFFECT OF REQUIRING THE COMMON CEILING TO BE REACHED IN PHASE I. WE WOULD PROPOSE FOLLOWING WORDING TO BE USED IN BOTH PARA A, SECTION II AND IN PARA J, SECTION III: "AGREEMENT IN PHASE I TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON
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COLLECTIVE CEILING FOLLOWING PHASE II REDUCTIONS AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF A SOVIET TANK ARMY IN PHASE I." KISSINGER

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